### TOMBSTONE EPITAPH.

REPPY & PECK, Publishers.

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF COCHISE COUNTY

### A BLACKMAILING OUTFIT.

For the past few days the Tombstone Prospector has been running "squibs" threatening to publish something "rich, rare and racy." They bore the earmarks of blackmail, but not until last evening did the EPITAPH learn the true inwardness of the case. It seems that one of our most prominent business men had been guilty of, or at least had been charged with, some indiscretion which might have been laid at the door of nine men out of ten with as much truth. Yesterday he received a note to the effect that the Prospector was about to publish a full account of the affair, and that in order to "square it," he (the business man) had better see James J. Nash. Knowing that Mr. Ritter was a friend of Nash's, he went to see him and induced Mr. R. to have a talk with Nash. It is said that Mr. Ritter effered Nash \$25 out of his own pocket to say nothing about it, and that Nash's reply was, "No, sir: I've got a family to support, and I th nk he'l pay more than that." Ritter left the blackmailer in disgust. Soon after, Nash and the business man had an interview, with the result that Nash was given a check, made payable to the order of Benny Hyde, for the sum of \$100, and Nash agreed to keep quiet.

The main facts show this to be as plain and unvarnished a case of blackmail as ever was known. The grand jury, which meets here in a few days, cannot help taking cognizance of the matter, and the result will probably be that J. J. Nash will have to stand trial for the crime (if he does not skip in the meantime), and if convicted will land in Yuma, where he belongs.

We have some respect for a robber who stops a stage, but for a blackmailer we consider Yuma too good for him.

THE LAW.

Section 810. Every person who exanother under circumstances not amount ing to robbery, by means of force or any threat such as is mentioned in the preceding section, is punishable by imprionment in the Territorial prison not exceeding five years.

It has been a subject of general surprise how the Prospector managed to exist. The matter is now explained.

Who knows but that "counterfeit bill" may have been greasing the wheels th: Prospector for several weeks? Another subject for the grand jury.

### How are you, Tortilita?

Wouldn't it be a good idea for the Florence, Tucson and Tombstone editors, who prostituted the columns of their pipers to the advocacy of the Tortilita swindle, to go out into the hills for a few days until the thing blows over?

Medical authorities say that when the brains are out the thing must die, and yet since Ridgeley Tilden left it the Prospector continues to drag its slow length along in its weak, imbecile, moribund manner. Doctors don't know everything,

Of all the newspapers in Arizona, the Globe Silver Belt was the only one that had a good word to say for the EPITAPH in its single-handed fight against the most outr geous swindle that was ever perpetr ted upon a people-the Tortilita Mining Company.

The EPITAPH prides itself upon its record in being the first newspaper in America to ventilate the notorious fraud known as the Tortilita Mining Company. It has called down upon its devoted head abuse and vituperation from the paid advocates of the swindle, but has not hesitated in performing what it considered to be its duty. Letters have been received from every State in the Union, making inquiry about the matter, and copies of the EPITAPH containing the expose have been forwarded to the writers. Now we take pleasure in rep oducing the report of one of the most eminent mining experts of the country. General Hal. Sayr, of Denver, who has personally examined the property, and whose report coincides exactly with that of the EPITAPH's expert, a well-known mining man of Tombstone. The New York Herald, for whom General Sayr's report was made, might have saved itself much trouble and expense by publishing the EPITAPH'S report upon the property which appeared six weeks ago. The le ding mining journals of the country accepted our report as correct, with the result that Torrilita stock dropped from \$3 to 50 cents per share. While in fact

it was not worth ten cents.

In closing its editorial comments upon the Torrilita swindle, the Herald says: Bunco schemes will injure bonest bu-iness and wil give their great Terbut one way to deal with these fraud-There is expose them as we do with this special fraud in this morning's Herald.

### A BUSTED BUBBLE.

THE TORTILITA MINING COMPANY

deport of General Sayr, One of the Least Experts of the Country, Which Confirms What the Epitaph Previously

General Hal Sayr, of Denver, Col., who has been the "court expert" in some of the biggest mining cases in the West, is a very conservative man. He visited the Tortilita for the New York Herald, and row reports on what he found there.

The following are the points: The Tortilita mines are on the mesa between the Tortilita and Owl's Head mountains, about thirty-five miles northwesterly from Tucson and fifteen miles from the Southern Pacific railway. The country is a vast plain, having an average elevation of about thirty-five undred feet, broken by short mountain anges, which rise in isolated masses and peaks from the general level in such a manner that a wagon can be driven entirely around them.

Some of these mountains are granite, others porphyritic in general character The plains-or as they are locally termed, mesas-are alluvial, showing depos its of twenty-five to 400 feet of alluvial

On ariving at Tucson I found no minng excitement whatever; indeed, many people had never heard of the "famous Torulita mines." Inquiry at the Survevor General's office and the United States Land Office failed to elicit any ofncial knowledge of them; indeed neither of these offices had ever heard of them except in the most casual manner. The only bank in the city had heard of the mines, but Mr. Freeman, the cashier, knew of no shipment of bullion, nor was any business done through their bank by he Tortilita company.

I next visited the mines. The mill, office, assay building and a dozen cobertizos occupied by the Mexican laborers, are located in a little gulch which heads in the Tortilita mountains. An examination of this gulch for a long distance above the camp showed no water at the surface except in one place where a stagnant pool in a rock was fed by a very small stream trickling from a crack in an adjacent ledge. The water for the mill is pumped from a well forty feet deep in the bed-rock of the gulch. We were told that owing to the scarcity of water the mill had been used only during the daytime for several days.

An examination of the mill, made by permission of Mr. Elmore, the superintendent, showed the usual machinery for crushing and treatment of ores by raw amalgamation. A five-stamp battery had the accompanying pans and rotating mullers, together with the necessary boiler and engine for driving them. But taken as a whole, the mill and its surrounding were not in first class condition and did not bear out the published des-

cription.
We were shown the Golden Eagle mine, said to be a gold mine, the only one of the group which is claimed such fined vein of quartz from six to ten inches thick, dipping to the south at an angle of

about 80 degrees from horizontal. The shaft is said to be eighty feet deep. No drifting or stoping has been done. The material taken from the shaft remains where it has been dumped. It is said to carry \$9 in gold and \$5 in silver to the ton. This being the nearest mine to the mill, as no ore from it is being treated, it evidently has no present value. The By Chance Extension and Lone Wiff silver mines extend over a surface about one thousand by two two hundred feet. They are of all depths from a mere pit to 180 feet. They dip in various directions and show neither unity nor continuity. The work has evidently been done to ascertain if possible the dip and trend of a main ore body and at the same time get all the ore within reach. There is no display of systematic work, but a constant groping for something definite, some denned wall or dip. Neither of these have yet been found continuous; breaks and faults in all directions have been encountered, and after all the work done there is still a very great doubt if there is a lode, if indeed the ores belong to or come from a lode or have any continuity below water level, where it is claimed by the present owners that there is a "concentration of ore," whatever they may mean by the expression,

These workings follow a well defined ridge or ledge of syenite which has something the appearance of a trap dyke. In this syenite occur veins and ounches of quartz, which are apparently the source of the ores mined.

The principal workings have centered about points where the ledge has been greatly disturbed, where, instead of main taining itself as a ridge above the plain, it has disintegregated and merged into the general level.

The best ore that could be found assayed so high that if there were any real fissure veins of it the mines would be of some value. The assays ran from \$2.11 to \$85,63 a ton. But thousands of tons

of the ore were worthless. The ore bodies in each of these mines have been worked out to the water level -forty to fifty feet-whereas in the case of the By Chance and Lone Will they are said to be "concentrated." In followings left by working out the ore bodiesthey were found to terminate in a soft dayer material. Naving no appearance of a lode, nor is there a defined lide developed in any of these workings eithor at the surface or bod reseath.

Judging from small pieces of the ores picked up in the abandoned workings lead and silver. These, by the action of thereby in a measure a free milling ore. If the deposit continues below water level the ores will be found as sulphides; the percentage of silver will, doubtless, materially decrease and the ore become more refractory.

Some small samples of ore found in the old workings assayed as high as \$840.61 per ton, while great bodies of ore were worthless.

From the assays it may be seen that very rich ores were found here and mined in some quantity, but notwithstanding this richness of ores, the "concentration" claimed below water level, and the natural decrease of water acknowledged by Mr. McGovern, the foreman, this property is and has been idle for a long time, while work is being prosecuted on the low grade ores of the By Chance and Lone Will, assays from which were given above. This, taken in connection with Mr. Elmore's statement that he was pushed to make expenses, places the matter where the only inference that can be drawn is that the ore body is exhausted.

After visiting the other mines and givng a detailed account of the character and output of each mine, General Sayr ums up as follows:

THE VERDICT OF THE TORTILITA.

Mr. Elmore stated that the property was no more than paying running expenses. He represented the monthly xpenditure at about \$2,098 exclusive of his salary, which is probably about \$500 per month or say in round numbers \$2.5 0.

From all that I could learn I doubt if the monthly shipment of bullion reaches this amount. The company's advertisement shows one shipment of 2,400 ounces, but claim it as the result of 15 days' work. If this were the case Mr. Elmore could not only easily pay current expenses, but would soon accumulate sufficient surplus with which to erect the needed mill capacity and hoister. The monthly capacity of the mill, according to the man in charge, is 300 tons-300 tons, producing 2,400 ounces, gives a product of eight ounces, \$7.68 per ton, which, putting all statements together, is doubtless very near the facts in the

In a conversation one of the most intelligent employes said that the property was looked upon by all of them as a prospect," that he had repeatedly urged its systematic development instead of the present desultory work, and if it were his he would at once prove its character and consequent value or abandon it.

The engineer who accompanied me in the examination expressed himself as surprised that the property should be called a mine or mines, and doubted if the shares could be sold at Tucson at at twenty-five cents, or even at any

From my examination, the assays herein given and the general knowledge atfollowing conclusions:

First-That some very good ore is found in the Tortilitas, but nothing that would warrant their greatly overestimated productive value.

Second-That no lock or body of ore has as yet been found to warrant calling the property more than a prospect. Third-That as a prospect it has a

present value only equal to the amount that a practical miner would be willing to risk in its development. In conclusion, I cannot leave this sub

ject without referring to the advertisement of this property, now appearing in the East and South.

In this we find such statements as the following:

The great value has been demonstrated by new and continuous discover-ies of vast bodies of ore. The shares are an absolute security, as they are based on property worth

many times what they call for. They are an investment pure and sim-

"A well known gentleman from the East" is made to report as f llows: 'We then returned and went down fifty feet further, and there measured a breast of ore torty two and a half feet wide, from which I took samples to the mill and saw worked, yielding an average of \$50 per ton. Here water was encountered and in three places along the line of this vein below ore has been uncovered and the vein shown to be four feet wide and of unknown length and depth. This demon-strates the great value of this property, for as all mining men know the concentration below the water level proves the permanency and value of a mine.

I could see thousands of tons of ore | Call and see samples. in sight that only needs sufficient mill capacity to produce unlimited quantities

Here is richness. After measuring 42% feet width of ore, that gave a working average of \$50 per ton, he finds at water level a vein of 4 feet and thereat exclaims that "this demonstrates the great value of the property." That's a demonstration with a yengeance; a contraction from 42% feet to 4 feet; and ust here where the ore body has suffered this remarkable contraction and where all, by his own statement, is covered by water, he "could see thousands of tons of ore in sight." Verily be's a ramarkable man and has a remarka ble power of vision. Is it supposable that any honest, well informed mining man would for a with such palpably absurd statements? The very wording of the whole article is too transparent to bear the teast scrutiny.

When a mining scheme relies for support legen the Rusment of a "well-knons

gentleman from the East," who asserts that its value is demonstrated by "the they were composed of sulphides of iron, concentration of the ore below the water level," and places that value at from the air, were changed to oxides and sul \$10,000,000 to \$,00,000,000; or upon phurets, with some chloride, becoming those of Governor Price, of New Jersey, who probably knows nothing of these mines and who asserts that the value is demonstrated "by the concentration of the ore below the water level;" or upon those of a "well-known mining operator" who was surprised to find "that investors were not invited to go it blind," and gives it as his opinion that the property is worth \$15,000,000; or upon the statements of Mr. Joseph H. Reall, "whose name is prominently mentioned for Vice President of the United States," and whose life occupation has evidently been that of a farmer, it is time for farmer. that of a farmer, it is time for farmers, at least, whose money is evidently being looked after, to tighten their hold on the hard earned dollars and give a scheme of that character a thorough scrutiny be-

> Can any sane man believe for moment that if the owners of the "famous Tortilitas" had the millions in sight which they claim, that they would be offering the property or any part of it at the rate of \$1,000,000? or that they would he advertising at a cost of \$700 to \$800 for each insertion the sale of shares sufficient to erect a twenty or forty stamp mill and a hoister? The whole scheme is too transparent to deceive any but those wholly unacquainted with mining operations, and to this class of people the promoters of the "Tortilitas" scheme are evidently looking for the money to pay U. S. Civil Service Reform. their advertising bills and possibly to erect a mil and hoister.

fore investing.

I am asked by the Herald if after my examination of this property I would isk the erection of a larger mill for the treatment of the ores.

My reply is no. The only additional machinery that the outlook would warrant is a hoister of sufficient capacity to take care of the water during the prosecution of such deeper work as would be required to demonstrate whether there is any continuity of the ore in paying quan tiles below water level, which I very

HAL SAYR, Mining Engineer. DENVER, Colo., Oct. 11, 1887.

New Store.

Paul Bahn is ofiering to the people of Combstone and the county in general, some of the best bargains in groceries and liquors ever offered in this county. His stock is new fresh and desirable canned goods, wines, candles, in fact every thing sold in a first class grocery store is being sold by him at Fairbank

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To the Public.

Having purchased the entire interest of os. Pascholy in the undertaking business in this city, I will hereafter devote my especial attention to said business. Emb ilming and the preparing of bodies for removal a specialty. Orders filled in any part of the county.

A. J. RITTER.

NOTICE. To the delinquent members of Rescue

Hose Company No 1. All members in arrears are hereby notified that on the 10th of November next, a list of members exempt from jury duty must be filed with the Clerk of the District Court. At that time all members who are in arrears will be stricken from the roll of the company.

By order of Company. C. N. THOMAS,

The EPITAPH is turning out as superior class of commercial job work, such as bill heads, letter heads, statements, etc., as can be procured any where. It is neatly put in pads. without extra charge.

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